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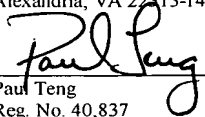
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Akikio SHINOHARA et al.

Serial No.: 10/521,978

Date Filed: January 21, 2005

For: MEDICAL IMAGE DIAGNOSIS APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
	March 16, 2005
Paul Teng Reg. No. 40,837	Date

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Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the information identified therein are also provided. This Information Disclosure Statement supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently with the application on January 21, 2005.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The information listed in the Form PTO-1449 was cited in an International Preliminary Examination Report issued in connection with International Application No. PCT/JP2003/009239 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the English Translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report is enclosed herewith. A copy of the Japanese-language International Preliminary Report was previously submitted (with this application).

Other references cited in the International Preliminary Examination Report which are not listed in the annexed Form PTO-1449 were previously submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently with this application on January 21, 2005. Accordingly, copies of such other references are not submitted herewith and they are not listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449.


The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Form PTO-1449

**U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office**

**Atty. Docket No.**

**1141/73755**

Serial No.

**10/521,978**

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

**Applicants:**

Akiko SHINOHARA, et al.

**Filing Date:**

**January 21, 2005**

**Group Art Unit:**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

		FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT (including interior, auto, auto, equipment, gas, etc.)					

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

\***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.